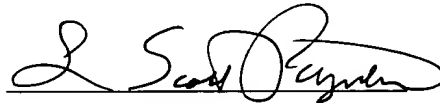


REMARKS

The representative for the Applicants thanks the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the telephonic interview of 15 November 15, 2000 regarding the parent application. This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-33 without prejudice to consideration in a continuing application and adds claims 34-56. Independent claim 34 is based on the subject matter of claim 1 discussed during the interview that was indicated to be allowable over the art cited in the parent application. Claims 35-45 are dependent claims that further define the invention of claim 34. Independent claim 46 combines some of the subject matter of claim 1 and claim 12 of the parent application. The combination of claim 1 and claim 12 was also indicated to be allowable for the parent application. Claims 47-56 depend from claim 46 further defining the invention thereof. Because of the cancellation of claims 1-33, it is believed that no further claim fees are due for the present application.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that claims 34-56 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve any outstanding matters concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted:



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